

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 067682

53

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ORM-01 SR-02 H-02 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /062 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/BC/C:AMISAACS:MG
APPROVED BY ARA/BC:JEKARKASHIAN
S/R/ORM:FJAMESON
H:WRICHARDSON
ARA/PAF:KMARSHAL
ARA/EP:FCORREY

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R 252253Z MAR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, US, PFOR, SREF

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE U.S. ADMISSION OF CHILEAN REFUGEES

REF: SANTIAGO 1618 (NOTAL)

1. CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR DEPT
SPOKESMAN AFTER APPEARANCE OF AP STORY, AS FOLLOWS:

Q. IS IT TRUE THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL ACCEPT CHILEAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS AS REFUGEES?

A. AS YOU KNOW THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED SOME
MONTHS AGO A PROGRAM OF RELEASE INTO EXILE OF CERTAIN
DETAINEES, PROVIDED COUNTRIES COULD BE FOUND FOR THEIR
RESETTLEMENT. THE DEPARTMENT HAS PUT FORWARD A PROPOSAL
TO ACCEPT A LIMITED NUMBER OF SUCH DETAINEES, AND REFUGEES
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PAGE 02 STATE 067682

ALREADY ABROAD, WHO MEET THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR

PAROLE INTO THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT. WE HAVE BEEN CONSULTING WITH THE CONGRESS ABOUT THE PROPOSAL. THE FINAL DETERMINATION MUST BE MADE BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Q. WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY A "LIMITED NUMBER" IN THIS INSTANCE?

A. WE ARE NOT NOW IN A POSITION TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC NUMBERS.

Q. DIDN'T WE TAKE SOME EARLIER REFUGEES AFTER THE COUP?

A. AT THE REQUEST OF THE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, A SIMILAR PROGRAM WAS UNDERTAKEN IN 1973 WITH REGARD TO THIRD-COUNTRY REFUGEES IN CHILE.

Q. HOW MANY DID WE TAKE IN THEN?

A. SOME 26 PERSONS WERE APPROVED FOR ENTRY.

2. EMBASSY MAY DRAW ON FOREGOING IN REPLYING TO QUESTIONS.

3. FYI - PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY ENCOMPASS CHILEAN REFUGEES IN PERU UNDER UNHCR MANDATE AS WELL AS DETAINEES WHO MAY OBTAIN RELEASE INTO EXILE UNDER GOC PROGRAM. NEITHER HAS ANY STATUS OUTSIDE OF DEPARTMENT. THEREFORE EMBASSY SHOULD AVOID SPECULATION IN DISCUSSIONS WITH GOC OR OTHER INQUIRERS ABOUT TIMING, NUMBERS INVOLVED OR OTHER PARAMETERS WHICH REMAIN TO BE DEFINED. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL ASYLUM, REFUGEES, PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE067682
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AMISAACS:MG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750105-0665
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750316/aaaaaomk.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SANTIAGO 1618
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE U.S. ADMISSION OF CHILEAN REFUGEES
TAGS: PFOR, SREF, CI, US
To: SANTIAGO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006